

## CHAPTER 2.3.1.

### BOVINE BRUCELLOSIS

#### Article 2.3.1.1.

Standards for diagnostic tests and vaccines are described in the *Terrestrial Manual*.

#### Article 2.3.1.2.

##### **Country or zone free from bovine brucellosis**

To qualify as free from bovine brucellosis, a country or zone shall satisfy the following requirements:

- 1) bovine brucellosis or any suspicion thereof is notifiable in the country;
- 2) the entire cattle population of a country or zone is under *official veterinary control* and it has been ascertained that the rate of brucellosis infection does not exceed 0.2% of the cattle herds in the country or zone under consideration;
- 3) the serological tests for bovine brucellosis are periodically conducted in each herd, with or without the ring test;
- 4) no animal has been vaccinated against bovine brucellosis for at least the past 3 years;
- 5) all reactors are slaughtered;
- 6) animals introduced into a free country or zone shall only come from herds officially free from bovine brucellosis or from herds free from bovine brucellosis. This condition may be waived for animals which have not been vaccinated and which, prior to entry into the herd, were isolated and were subjected to the serological tests for bovine brucellosis with negative results on two occasions, with an interval of 30 days between each test. These tests are not considered valid in female animals which have calved during the past 14 days.

In a country where all herds of cattle have qualified as officially free from bovine brucellosis and where no reactor has been found for the past 5 years, the system for further control may be decided by the country concerned.

#### Article 2.3.1.3.

##### **Herd officially free from bovine brucellosis**

To qualify as officially free from bovine brucellosis, a herd of cattle shall satisfy the following requirements:

- 1) it is under *official veterinary control*;
- 2) it contains no animal which has been vaccinated against bovine brucellosis during at least the past 3 years;
- 3) it only contains animals which have not showed evidence of bovine brucellosis infection during the past 6 months, all suspect cases (such as animals which have prematurely calved) having been subjected to the necessary laboratory investigations;

- 4) all cattle over the age of one year (except castrated males) were subjected to serological tests with negative results on two occasions, at an interval of 12 months between each test; this requirement is maintained even if the entire herd is normally tested every year or testing is conducted in conformity with other requirements established by the *Veterinary Administration* of the country concerned;
- 5) additions to the herd shall only come from herds officially free from bovine brucellosis. This condition may be waived for animals which have not been vaccinated, come from a herd free from bovine brucellosis, provided that negative results were shown following a buffered *Brucella* antigen test and the complement fixation test during the 30 days prior to entry into the herd. Any recently calved or calving animal should be retested after 14 days, as tests are not considered valid in female animals which have calved during the past 14 days.

Article 2.3.1.4.

**Herd free from bovine brucellosis**

To qualify as free from bovine brucellosis, a herd of cattle shall satisfy the following requirements:

- 1) it is under *official veterinary control*;
- 2) it is subjected to either a vaccination or a non-vaccination regime;
- 3) if a live vaccine is used in female cattle, vaccination must be carried out between 3 and 6 months of age, in which case these female cattle must be identified with a permanent mark;
- 4) all cattle over the age of one year are controlled as provided in paragraph 4) of the definition of a herd of cattle officially free from bovine brucellosis; however, cattle under 30 months of age which have been vaccinated using a live vaccine before reaching 6 months of age, may be subjected to a buffered *Brucella* antigen test with a positive result, with the complement fixation test giving a negative result;
- 5) all cattle introduced into the herd come from a herd officially free from bovine brucellosis or from a herd free from bovine brucellosis, or from a country or zone free from bovine brucellosis. This condition may be waived for animals which have been isolated and which, prior to entry into the herd, were subjected to the serological tests for bovine brucellosis with negative results on two occasions, with an interval of 30 days between each test. These tests are not considered valid in female animals which have calved during the past 14 days.

Article 2.3.1.5.

*Veterinary Administrations of importing countries* should require:

for cattle for breeding or rearing (except castrated males)

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the animals:

- 1) showed no clinical sign of bovine brucellosis on the day of shipment;
- 2) were kept in a herd in which no clinical sign of bovine brucellosis was officially reported during the 6 months prior to shipment;
- 3) were kept in a country or zone free from bovine brucellosis, or were from a herd officially free from bovine brucellosis and were subjected to a serological test for bovine brucellosis with negative results during the 30 days prior to shipment; or

- 4) were kept in a herd free from bovine brucellosis and were subjected to buffered *Brucella* antigen and complement fixation tests with negative results during the 30 days prior to shipment;

if the cattle come from a herd other than those mentioned above:

- 5) were isolated prior to shipment and were subjected to a serological test for bovine brucellosis with negative results on two occasions, with an interval of not less than 30 days between each test, the second test being performed during the 15 days prior to shipment. These tests are not considered valid in female animals which have calved during the past 14 days.

Article 2.3.1.6.

*Veterinary Administrations of importing countries* should require:

for cattle for slaughter (except castrated males)

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the animals:

- 1) showed no clinical sign of bovine brucellosis on the day of shipment;
- 2) are not being eliminated as part of an eradication programme against bovine brucellosis;
- 3) were kept in a country or zone free from bovine brucellosis; or
- 4) were kept in a herd officially free from bovine brucellosis; or
- 5) were kept in a herd free from bovine brucellosis; or
- 6) were subjected to a serological test for bovine brucellosis with negative results during the 30 days prior to shipment.

Article 2.3.1.7.

*Veterinary Administrations of importing countries* should require:

for bovine semen

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that:

- 1) when the semen is from an *artificial insemination centre*, the testing programme includes the buffered *Brucella* antigen and complement fixation tests;
- 2) when the semen is not from an *artificial insemination centre*, the donor animals:
  - a) were kept in a country or zone free from bovine brucellosis; or
  - b) were kept in a herd officially free from bovine brucellosis, showed no clinical sign of bovine brucellosis on the day of collection of the semen and were subjected to a buffered *Brucella* antigen test with negative results during the 30 days prior to collection; or
  - c) were kept in a herd free from bovine brucellosis, showed no clinical sign of bovine brucellosis on the day of collection and were subjected to the buffered *Brucella* antigen and complement fixation tests with negative results during the 30 days prior to collection; or
  - d) showed no clinical sign of bovine brucellosis on the day of collection, were subjected to the

~~buffered *Brucella* antigen and complement fixation tests with negative results during the 30 days prior to collection and no *Brucella* agglutinin was detected in the semen;~~

- 3) the semen was collected, processed and stored in conformity with the provisions of Appendix 3.2.1.